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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 14838 171640Z

44
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 SCI-06 SCEM-02

NEA-10 EA-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 SSO-00 IO-14 /167 W
---------- 022724
P R 171631Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6527
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS LONDON 14838

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, UK
SUBJECT: ENERGY ACTION GROUP PROPOSAL: STATEMENTS OF
PRIME MINISTER HEATH AND OPPOSITION LEADER
HAROLD WILSON.

1. ON DECEMBER 13 PRIME MINISTER HEATH WARMLY
WELCOMED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S IMAGINATIVE PROPOSAL
AS IN THE GREAT TRADITION OF THE MARSHALL PLAN.
HAROLD WILSON IMMEDIATELY SUPPORTED HEATH'S REMARKS.

2. TEXT OF PERTINENT PORTION OF PRIME MINISTER'S
REMARKS TO HOUSE OF COMMONS FOLLOW:

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PAGE 02 LONDON 14838 171640Z

BEGIN QUOTE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

OTHER COUNTRIES WILL BE SIMILARLY AFFECTED BY THE
RISE IN OIL PRICES, AND WILL BE HAVING TO CONSIDER THE
IMPLICATIONS FOR THEIR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. IN THIS
SITUATION THERE IS AN ACUTE DANGER THAT, IF WE ALL
INDEPENDENTLY RESORT TO DEFLATIONARY MEASURES FOR THE
SAKE OF OUR INDIVIDUAL BALANCES OF PAYMENTS, WE SHALL
SET OFF A DISASTROUS SLUMP IN THE LEVEL OF WORLD TRADE.
IT WILL REQUIRE ALL THE EFFORT AND ALL THE FARSIGHTED-
NESS OF WHICH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS CAPABLE
TO ESCAPE THAT CONSEQUENCE.

I LEAVE FOR COPENHAGEN THIS EVENING FOR THE COMMUNITY
SUMMIT MEETING TOMORROW. WE SHALL BE DISCUSSING THE
ENERGY SITUATION IN ALL ITS ASPECTS; BUT THIS PARTICULAR
ASPECT WILL BE VERY MUCH IN MIND.

THE HOUSE WILL HAVE SEEN THAT IN HIS SPEECH IN LONDON
LAST NIGHT DR. KISSINGER ANNOUNCED A PROPOSAL FOR AN
ENERGY ACTION GROUP, WHICH WOULD HAVE AS ITS GOAL THE
ASSURANCE OF REQUIRED ENERGY SUPPLIES AT REASONABLE
COST. UNDER THIS PROPOSAL THE NATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA,
EUROPE AND JAPAN WOULD CO-OPERATE IN A PROGRAMME TO
RATIONALIZE AND CONSERVE SOURCES OF SUPPLY, AND GIVE
EXISTING PRODUCERS AN INCENTIVE TO INCREASE SUPPLY. I
SHALL BE DISCUSSING THAT MATTER WITH THE OTHER COMMUNITY
HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AT COPENHAGEN; BUT I CAN SAY HERE
AND NOW THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WARMLY WELCOME THIS
IMAGINATIVE PROPOSAL, WHICH IS IN THE GREAT
TRADITION OF THE MARSHALL PLAN AFTER THE WAR. END QUOTE

3. TEXT OF PERTINENT PROTION OF HAROLD WILSON'S
STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE
WE ARE ALL GLAD THAT THE PRIME MINISTER GAVE SUCH A
WARM WELCOME TO THE INITIATIVE PROPOSED BY DR. HENRY
KISSINGER IN LONDON LAST NIGHT. WE HOPE THAT HE WILL
URGE ON HIS COLLEAGUES THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR
COMMUNAL ACTION ON OIL WHICH TRANSCENDS ANY
INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY OR, INDEED, WESTERN EUROPE. I
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PAGE 03 LONDON 14838 171640Z

HOPE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL DO EVERYTHING IN HIS
POWER TO FULFIL THE PROPOSAL WHICH HE HAS SO WARMLY
ENDORSED.
END QUOTE

4. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY.

SOHM

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